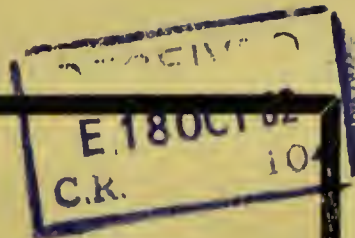


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BOROUGH OF CHORLEY



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# ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

## Medical Officer of Health

AND THE

## Chief Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

# 1961

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HILLS PRINTERS (LANCASHIRE) LTD.,  
CHORLEY.  
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## BOROUGH OF CHORLEY

## MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

1961

His Worship the Mayor, Councillor G. R. RIGBY.

Alderman Miss E. E. J. CUNLIFFE.	Alderman B. H. GASKELL.
„ R. EVANS.	„ J. B. HINDLE.
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„ P. KEANE.	„ A. R. SHEPPARD.
	„ N. SMALLEY.
	„ I. SELLERS.
	„ T. C. SHORROCK.
	„ R. V. SWARBRICK.

Chairman of Health Committee:

Councillor W. RAWCLIFFE.

Vice-Chairman of Health Committee:

His Worship the Mayor, Councillor G. R. RIGBY.

**PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.**

**Medical Officer of Health:**

J. WALKER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., L.D.S., D.P.D.

Divisional Medical Officer to the Health Division No. 4, Lancashire County Council, also Medical Officer of Health to the Urban District Councils of Adlington, Fulwood, Leyland, Longridge, Walton-le-Dale and Withnell, and to the Rural District Councils of Chorley and Preston.

**Deputy Medical Officer of Health:**

N. T. W. POVER, L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P.S., L.M.S.S.A., D.P.H.

Also Senior Assistant Medical Officer, Health Division 4.

**Chief Public Health Inspector:**

R. J. MORSE, M.A.P.H.I., A.I.P.H.E., (a) (b) (c).

**Additional Public Health Inspectors:**

H. WARD, M.R.S.H. (a) (b) (c).

F. MYERS, A.R.S.H.

G. H. WATCHORN, A.R.S.H. (a).

- (a) Also holds the Royal Society of Health Certificate as a Meat and Other Foods Inspector.
- (b) Also holds the Royal Society of Health Certificate as a Smoke Inspector.
- (c) Also holds the Royal Society of Health Certificate in Sanitary Science as applied to Buildings and Public Works.

**Clerical Staff:**

R. HEAPS.

Mrs. D. PROCTER.

# **PART 1.**

**NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND VITAL STATISTICS.**

**GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE HEALTH SERVICES.**

**PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.**

**SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.**

By

**J. WALKER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., L.D.S., D.P.D.,**

**Medical Officer of Health.**



**BOROUGH OF CHORLEY.**

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the annual report of the health and sanitary circumstances of the Borough of Chorley for the year ending 31st December, 1961. The health of the Community depends on conditions which are related to current economical and social circumstances. With changes in living standards new health problems arise and old problems lose their significance. By way of illustration, consider the changes which have taken place over the last 50 years. At the commencement of the century, life expectancy was 50 years for men and 53 for women, whereas the corresponding figures now are 68 and 74. One third of these deaths were from infectious diseases, to-day the proportion is less than one-fifteenth.

Immediately before the second World War the average annual number of deaths in England and Wales from Scarlet Fever was 298, and from Diphtheria 2,700. In 1960 there were no deaths from Scarlet Fever and 5 from Diphtheria. There was 2,383 deaths from Whooping Cough in 1941, compared with 37 in 1960.

In the past, the dangers to the health of the community were mainly from outbreaks of water-borne infectious diseases such as cholera and typhoid. These originated from insanitary conditions prevalent at that time. These diseases were replaced by those resulting from inadequate nutrition such as rickets which has almost disappeared since the advent of the Welfare State.

To-day many of the illnesses which cause incapacity for work are associated with the stress of modern life. These illnesses include Peptic Ulcer, Coronary Thrombosis, Diabetes and a variety of Neuroses.

To-day life is more complex and the standard of living for most people is better than before. What then are the community problems of to-day? Many would seem to arise directly from this increased prosperity and an undue emphasis on the importance of materialistic values to the exclusion of all else.

Juvenile delinquency has almost trebled since 1913, and the 5 deaths from diphtheria in 1960, equals approximately the number of people killed by violence every 3 hours of the day and night in England and Wales. This increase in violence would appear to arise from a lack of discipline and self denial. The cry to-day is for more leisure. What is the use of the leisure if it cannot be properly applied? There are many instances where persons will carry out their normal work during the day, then take on extra jobs in their spare time. Such activity defeats the purpose of leisure which should be a change, mentally and physically from everyday work.

Food, clothing, shelter and a sense of security are important items in promoting health but it is a mistake to imagine that the Welfare State is the complete answer to every problem. To-day more housewives than ever are going out to



work and whilst there is no doubt that in many cases this is a necessity, it cannot be denied that in other instances, the additional income is used in an attempt to "keep up with the Jones." Many authorities have stated that there are no harmful effects on the family when mother goes out to work. Others are of the opinion that sooner or later someone must suffer and where there are young children that "someone" is the child. No substitute can replace the position of the mother in her home and no job can compete with the satisfaction of running a happy home. Children require security and affection in addition to material care.

The Pilkington Committee have reported on Television. In my opinion the great danger of television is its insidious ability to stifle individual thought and activity. The human brain has an inherent laziness. Most of us know how much easier it is to read a sensational novel rather than a difficult textbook. Once the initial effort has been made, the process of learning comes easier and just as an athlete can train his muscles to reach peak condition so can the brain be trained to reason and memorise. Vision is the easiest form of impression and while some television programmes are educational, there is no doubt that the majority are designed to stifle all individual constructive thought. These programmes have been defended on grounds that they have public appeal — a sad reflection on the intellect of the public.

Turning now to the younger age group. There has been a similar change in the cause of mortality of the young people.

Infectious and respiratory diseases which were the main causes of infant deaths 50 years ago have been reduced and replaced by congenital and hereditary defects and various forms of heart disease. In adolescence, typhoid and tuberculosis have been replaced by accidents on the roads and at home. Accidents kill more children over one year old than any disease in Western Countries.

The main causes of accidents in the home are:—

1. Falls chiefly among the elderly.
2. Poisoning.
3. Burns.
4. Suffocation, especially under 5 years of age. Many of these result from the use of plastic bags and bibs. Children often place their heads inside plastic bags when playing at "Spacemen." What should be widely known is that these plastic bags become adhesive when moist and may be inhaled causing them to adhere to the respiratory passages producing suffocation. Many accidents result from the use of electric fires in the bathroom. All fires should be guarded, mirrors should not be placed over fireplaces and medicines and household poisons should be kept under lock and key.

The national death rate from various forms of Cancer continues to rise, we do not know the reasons for the increase, some of which is undoubtedly due to better methods of diagnosis. Evidence is beginning to demonstrate a connection between smoking and lung cancer. Much has been said about failure to isolate

carcinogenic substances from tobacco but I do not think this is the important point. What is more important is that some tobacco smoke is bound to be inhaled. This smoke contains unburned carbon particles which pass into the delicate linings of the lungs and produce irritation and changes in cell structure. It is known that prolonged irritation can produce cancer. In addition, there are other harmful effects of smoking which can produce Chronic Bronchitis, and Arterial deficiency diseases. Lung cancer is most frequent in large towns, here atmospheric pollution may play an important part.

### **Coronary Thrombosis.**

This may be regarded as the great epidemic disease of modern times. It has a special importance in that it often kills men at the height of their careers. The disease is more common among the overweight, sedentary, professional and executive classes. Many factors have been blamed such as, smoking, lack of exercise, obesity and food rich in certain type of fats. The truth is that at present we do not know the exact cause of this disease. Regular exercise and moderation in diet would appear to be the best way of reducing the incidence of Coronary Thrombosis.

### **Food Poisoning**

There are now a wide variety of processed foods available, prepared under excellent conditions in modern factories but they require intelligent handling and storage. Foods which do not require cooking can easily become contaminated and it is important to read the instruction on the labels of foods which have been processed or partly prepared as the directions are related to the amount and kind of treatment it has had and the storage it needs. Special care is required in Summer regarding the length of storage. Bacteria multiply more quickly in warm weather and food may appear wholesome to all intents and purposes. The most important preventive measure is handwashing before handling food, which should never be left in a warm kitchen or oven to cool off slowly. It should be protected against flies which transmit bacteria from refuse and faecal matter. Wounds and sores should be protected by waterproof dressings.

Herds infected with Brucella organisms continue to make the supply of satisfactory milk a problem. These organisms are responsible for causing Undulant Fever which is characterised by prolonged periods of poor health resulting in the loss of much time off work. The illness can only be diagnosed with certainty by special tests. As these organisms are killed by heat treatment, it would be advisable for all raw milk to be pasteurised.

### **Problem families.**

Every community has long been aware of a hard core of families needing a disproportionate amount of care and supervision. They have been defined as families presenting an unusual amount of subnormal behaviour over long periods with a marked tendency to backsliding. One or both parents are often unstable or

of low intelligence. Such families resist every effort at rehabilitation. The number in the country varies between one family per 1,000 and three per 1,000. The causes are uncertain, defects of character, intelligence and temperament combined with neglect and poor upbringing play an important part. The children are often reasonably well fed and the family may be happy and affectionate. All authorities agree that the break-up of such families should be prevented at all costs as the effects on the children of seeing their homes broken up because of nonpayment of rent, can have serious repercussions in later years. Regular meetings to prevent break-ups are held, at which Health Visitors, and representatives from the N.S.P.C.C. District Council Welfare Services and National Assistance Board attend. Each case is discussed and every attempt is made to find a solution to keep the family unit intact. This is a National problem and without constant supervision, these families soon deteriorate. Any help given should stimulate, not demoralise.

### **Tuberculosis.**

There has been a marked decrease in the number of deaths from this disease. This is due to the introduction of new drugs and advances in chest surgery. However, the number of notifications remain high, due in some measure to the increased number of chest X-rays being taken for various purposes. The main problem to-day is the detection of the undiagnosed pool of chronic tuberculous people who act as foci of infection. The scheme for B.C.G. vaccination of School-leavers is an important preventive measure. Briefly, the scheme involves a preliminary injection to determine which groups are susceptible to Tuberculosis. This group is then offered further vaccination using attenuated vaccine.

### **Infectious diseases.**

The immunisation figures for diphtheria continue to be disappointing, especially since the immunising agent used also provides immunity against tetanus and whooping cough. Once the immunity level of the population falls, diphtheria will return and there is no more serious illness. Whooping cough should also not be regarded lightly as it can produce serious defects of the lung. The conclusion is obvious. Immunisation to be complete must include protection against diphtheria, whooping cough, small pox and tetanus, and not just those diseases which happen to be "headline news" at the time.

### **The Future.**

The changes which take place in the health of the community are not dramatic. One has to look back 50 years to see the great changes which have occurred. Similarly, it is of interest to see what changes may take place in the future and to see what problems may have to be met.

Firstly, I think that the care of the aged will be a major problem. There are now over 3 million people aged 70 or more and by 1975 the number of persons of 65 years and over will increase by 2 million and will represent one seventh of



the total population. Loneliness is one of the main problems. Many elderly persons require nursing and domestic help from the community.

The second problem will be that of the control of Radiation hazards. Apart from nuclear explosions, radioactive isotopes are used in industry and medicine and hazards arise from exposure to ionising radiations outside the body and from ingestion or inhalation of substances which enter the body. These substances can produce changes in cell structure and if these changes involve the reproductive organs, these cell changes can be handed down to future generations. Radiation injury is the only known injury which can be transmitted to future generations.

The Radio Active Substances Act received the Royal Assent in 1960. It requires among other things, the registration of all premises where Radio Active materials are kept and lays down measures for the disposal of Radio Active waste.

The third problem is that of noise. Continual exposure can cause deterioration in hearing although it is always difficult to prove that a certain noise is prejudicial to health.

Turning now to the events which have taken place in Chorley Borough during 1961. The year commenced with an increase of 250% in the number of claims for Sickness benefit from the Ministry of Insurance.

A public enquiry was held in February to deal with questions arising from the Tootell Street Clearance area.

In August, 6 cases of Food Poisoning involving passengers on a Motor Coach from Chorley to Blackpool were reported. The source of infection was traced to a public restaurant outside Chorley Borough.

The Official opening of the Civil Defence Centre by Lt. General E. N. Goddard, C.B., C.I.E., C.B.E., M.V.O., M.C., took place in September and in the same month the Council kindly sent me on a refresher course organised by the Society of Medical Officers' of Health.

One case of Poliomyelitis was notified in October. The year ended with an outbreak of Influenza which was responsible for 20% of the School Children in the Secondary Modern Schools being away from school. Throughout the year 52 cases of Infective Jaundice were investigated by the Public Health Inspectors. This disease is rarely serious and it is particularly difficult to eradicate as the infective period is over before clinical symptoms appear.

Housing conditions are gradually improving due to the effect of Clearance, Rehousing, Repair of existing houses and the erection of new houses. The most common defects are rising dampness, leaking roofs and gutters. There is still a shortage of aged people's bungalows and flats and a demand for houses with 4 or more bedrooms. There was little or no overcrowding as defined by the Housing Act.

It is interesting to note that the population of the Borough is 31,262 according to the preliminary report of the 1961 Census, as compared with the 1951 Census

figure of 32,640. The number of live births was 546, an increase of 73 on the previous year, giving a crude birth rate of 17.6 (17.7 adjusted) compared with 17.4 for England and Wales. The number of still births was 10, one less than 1960.

There were 25 more deaths in the Borough making a total of 431 and a crude death rate of 13.9 (15.2 adjusted). The National Death Rate was 12.0 per 1,000.

Of these deaths 145 resulted from diseases of the Heart, 15 less than the previous year, but this is still the largest single cause of death. Of these Heart Diseases 70 were attributed to Coronary Artery Disease, 2 less than 1960. As I indicated in my introduction to this report, coronary artery disease is a major problem.

There was a further increase of 7 in Deaths from Lung Cancer, a particularly unpleasant form of death and it is the duty of all concerned with the health of the community to take all possible measures which may reduce these deaths. There were 73 deaths from all forms of cancer, 2 more than in 1960. Although much research is continually going on, the actual cause of cancer which is a change in structure of a normal cell, appears to be no nearer solution.

Turning now to the Respiratory Diseases of Bronchitis and Pneumonia the reduction in deaths due to these, which occurred in 1960 has unfortunately not continued. 43 people died from either of these diseases, an increase of 12.

Once again there were no deaths resulting from pregnancy and childbirth which speaks well of the maternity and Ante Natal facilities in the Area.

There was one death from Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Unfortunately the number of infants who died before reaching 1 year of age still remains unsatisfactory. Of a total of 18 deaths, 10 children died in the first week of life. The Infant Mortality Rate differs from the General Death Rate in that it relates to deaths in a particular age group and it is an important measure of the economic and social circumstances of the area. Deaths during the first week of life are often related to pregnancy and childbirth, and although there has been a decrease in the Infant Mortality Rate 138 to 21.4 for England and Wales over the last 60 odd years, there has not been the same decrease in the death of children during the first month of life.

The Infant Mortality Rate for Chorley Borough was 33.0 per 1,000 live births compared with 21.4 for England and Wales.

The Notifications of Infectious diseases were 47 less than in 1960, making a total of 430. Of these, Measles accounted for 336 cases compared with 186 of the previous year. There were 36 notifications of Scarlet Fever compared with 129 last year. Cases of Whooping Cough and Dysentery decreased by 74 and 39 respectively. There was 1 case of Poliomyelitis.

The time would appear to be opportune for revision of the list of notifiable diseases. With the introduction of antibiotics and the increase in our understanding of many of these illnesses, conditions such as Pneumonia and Measles to name but two, have lost much of their significance. Similarly, argument has been brought forward to make German Measles notifiable as the illness can cause damage to the foetus in expectant women.

Notification would best serve its purpose if it was confined to those diseases when practical preventative measures could be applied.

Although there were no cases of Diphtheria in Chorley Borough last year, the immunisation figures against this disease are still unsatisfactory. Once the level of the community falls below the actual immunity level Diphtheria can return, and there is no more serious illness. Immunisation is quick, safe and practically painless and is the only way of preventing the return of Diphtheria. The vaccine used also confers immunity against Tetanus (Lockjaw) and Whooping Cough. The latter disease is often responsible for permanent damage to the lungs of children.

In conclusion I take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to Dr. Black, Mr. Morse and the Staff of the Health Department and other Departments of the Council who have given me every assistance during 1961.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. WALKER,

Medical Officer of Health.

### NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The Borough of Chorley is a compact industrial Lancashire town covering nearly 4,300 acres, of which about 680 acres were added, in 1934, from the surrounding rural area, including the Duxbury Estate (650 acres) and parts of the parishes of Euxton and Heath Charnock.

The town is situated approximately at the centre of a triangle formed by the County Boroughs of Preston, Wigan and Bolton, and is placed on elevated ground (average about 300 feet) at the approaches to the Pennine Range, which rises sharply to the East, the sea being located approximately 10 miles to the West. The subsoil is mainly clay, with outcrops of sand and gravel.

The majority of the houses are the terraced type in the centre of the town with municipal housing estates on the outskirts. The town is well provided with several small green recreation grounds, and possesses in Astley Park, near the centre of the town, a large natural parkland of much beauty, comprising nearly 100 acres.

The principal industries are cotton weaving, spinning and bleaching, motor works, floor-cloth manufacture, and steam laundries. A large proportion of female labour is normally employed.



## VITAL STATISTICS

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The following is a summary of the principal statistics for the years 1960 and 1961.

	1960	1961
Population (estimated) ....	31,320	31,160
Number of Deaths (corrected) ....	406	431
Death Rate (per 1,000 population) ....	13.0	15.2
Live Births ....	473	546
Live Birth Rate (per 1,000 population) ....	15.1	17.7
Still-births ....	11	10
Still-births (per 1,000 live and still births) ....	22.7	18.0
Total live and still births ....	484	556
Infant deaths (deaths under 1 year) ....	14	18
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births—total....	29.6	33.0
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births legitimate	25.4	29.3
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births illegitimate ....	4.2	3.7
Neo Natal Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births (first four weeks) ....	23.3	25.6
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births (under 1 week) ....	19.0	18.3
Perinatal Mortality Rate (still-births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still-births) ....	41.3	36.0
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	4.65	4.58
Maternal deaths (including abortion) ....	—	—
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births ....	—	—
Number of Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis	—	1
Death Rate per 1,000 population from Pulmonary Tuberculosis ....	—	.03
Number of Deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis	—	1
Death Rate per 1,000 population from all forms of Tuberculosis ....	—	.03

The Borough covers an area of 4,292 acres

Population (Census 1951) ....	32,636	32,636
No. of inhabited houses (Rate Books) ....	10,523	10,561
Rateable Value of the Borough ....	£306,012	£318,324
Product of 1d. Rate ....	£1,239	£1,222

### CAUSE OF DEATH

---

The following is a copy of the information supplied by the Registrar-General of the causes and sex distribution of deaths of Chorley residents.

	M.	F.	T.
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory ....	1	—	1
2. Tuberculosis, other ....	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic Disease ....	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria ....	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough ....	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections ....	—	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis ....	—	—	—
8. Measles ....	—	—	—
9. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases ....	—	—	—
10. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach ....	7	6	13
11. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus ....	16	4	20
12. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast ....	—	3	3
13. Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus ....	—	1	1
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms ....	16	20	36
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia ....	—	1	1
16. Diabetes ....	—	1	1
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System ....	21	36	57
18. Coronary Disease, Angina ....	43	27	70
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease ....	2	10	12
20. Other Heart Diseases ....	30	33	63
21. Other Circulatory Disease ....	8	19	27
22. Influenza ....	6	9	15
23. Pneumonia ....	9	5	14
24. Bronchitis ....	18	11	29
25. Other Diseases of Respiratory System ....	2	1	3
26. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ....	2	—	2
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ....	2	1	3
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis ....	1	1	2
29. Hyperplasia of Prostate ....	—	—	—
30. Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion ....	—	—	—
31. Congenital Malformations ....	2	3	5
32. Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases ....	21	13	34
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents ....	—	2	2
34. Other Accidents ....	6	3	9
35. Suicide ....	4	4	8
36. Homicide and operations of war ....	—	—	—
	<hr/> 217	<hr/> 214	<hr/> 431

TABLE I.

	Live Births		Deaths (All Causes)		Stillbirths		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality			
	No Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Pop'n	No. Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Pop'n	No. Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Total Births	No. of D'ths Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Total Births	Total		Neo-Natal	
									No. of D'ths Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Live Births	No. of D'ths Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Live Births
Year 1961	546	*	431	*	10	18.0	Nil.	Nil.	18	33.0	14	18.3
Year 1960	473	15.1	406	13.0	11	22.7	Nil	Nil	14	29.6	11	23.3
1959	511	16.3	457	14.5	13	24.8	Nil	Nil	7	13.7	3	5.9
1958	459	14.6	437	13.9	8	17	2	4.28	17	37	13	28.3
1957	503	15.9	390	12.3	17	33	Nil	Nil	9	18	8	16
1956	492	15.5	402	12.7	12	24	Nil	2.04	10	20	10	20
Avg. 5 years 1956-60	—	15.5	—	13.3	—	24.3	—	1.3	—	23.7	—	18.7
* Adjusted      Live Birth Rate (Comparability Factor, 1.01) = 17.7 per 1000 Death Rate      (Comparability Factor, 1.10) = 15.2 per 1000												

TABLE II.  
Infant Mortality Rates.

Year	CHORLEY	England and Wales
1956	20	23.8
1957	18	23.0
1958	37	22.5
1959	13.7	22.0
1960	29.6	21.7
1961	33.0	21.4

TABLE III.  
Birth Rates.

Year	CHORLEY	England and Wales
1956	15.5	15.7
1957	15.9	16.1
1958	14.6	16.4
1959	16.3	16.5
1960	15.1	17.1
1961	17.7	17.4

TABLE IV.  
Death Rates.

Year	CHORLEY	England and Wales
1956	12.7	11.7
1957	12.3	11.5
1958	13.9	11.7
1959	14.5	11.6
1960	13.0	11.5
1961	15.2	12.0

TABLE V.

Birth and Death Rates in the Borough of Chorley since 1946.

	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Birth Rate	20.1	18.2	17.2	14.5	15.1	15.0	16.1	14.9	14.9	15.5	15.9	14.6	16.3	15.1	17.7
Death Rate	13.0	10.9	13.3	14.9	14.5	12.5	13.4	13.8	14.4	12.7	12.3	13.9	14.5	13.0	15.2
Infantile Mortality Rate	50.	33.	32.	25.	33.	35.	31.	27.	27.	20.	18.0	37.0	13.7	29.6	33.0
Maternal Mortality Rate	0.	0.	1.72	4.12	0.	0.	0.	0.	2.04	0	0.	4.28	0.	0.	0.
Natural Increase	+ 6.9	+7.3	+ 3.9	-0.4	+0.6	+2.5	+ 2.7	+ 1.1	+0.5	+2.8	+ 3.6	+0.7	+ 1.8	+ 2.1	+ 2.5

TABLE VI.

Birth and Death Rates through 5-Yearly Periods.

	1905-09	1910-14	1915-19	1920-24	1925-29	1930-34	1935-39	1940-44	1945-49	1950-54	1955-59	1960	1961
Death Rate .....	16.5	15.3	15.3	12.5	12.3	13.0	13.7	13.4	12.7	13.8	13.6	13.0	15.2
Birth Rate ....	27.1	24.0	17.3	20.5	16.0	14.0	14.4	17.8	18.2	15.1	15.4	15.1	17.7
Infantile Mortality Rate	146	140	110	106	83	74.4	78.4	48.6	42.0	27.0	22.7	29.6	33.0
Natural Increase	+10.6	+ 8.7	+2.0	+7.6	+3.7	+1.0	+0.7	+4.4	+5.6	+1.3	+ 1.8	+2.1	+2.5



## **GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES**

Since the National Health Service Act came into force the personal health services of the Borough have been administered by the Lancashire County Council, as the "Local Authority" under the Act. These services include the Ante-Natal Clinics, Child Welfare Clinics and the School Health Services—Medical and Dental, and the Home Nursing Services.

The Ambulance Service is also provided by the County Council.

The Hospital Services which include all the local and near-by hospitals, are now maintained by the Preston and Chorley Hospital Management Committee.

### **Laboratory Service.**

The Public Health Laboratory in Preston, which forms part of the nation's Public Health Laboratory Service, undertakes all the work of the Borough of Chorley in this field.

The Public Health Laboratory Service is directed by the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health, and caters for every aspect of the public health work of a local authority related to the bacteriological and biological examinations of samples and specimens.

## **DETAILS OF COUNTY HEALTH SERVICES**

The following services are administered on behalf of Lancashire County Council by No. 4 Division Health Committee. The Divisional Medical Officer is Dr. J. Walker, 55, Victoria Road, Fulwood, Tel. Preston 77263 and the local Assistant Divisional Medical Officer of Health is Dr. D. J. Black, 2 and 4, St. Thomas's Square, Tel. Chorley 2709.

### **Ambulance Service**

There are 4 ambulances, 2 sitting case cars and 2 dual purpose cars stationed at the Ambulance Station in Pall Mall, Chorley. The work done by this station covers the area of the Borough and surrounding districts. All these vehicles are radio controlled from the County Ambulance Headquarters at Broughton.

By the end of the year arrangements were at an advanced stage for the erection of a new ambulance station in Preston Street and it was hoped that the building would be ready for occupation early in 1962.

### **Midwifery Service**

There is one domiciliary Midwife in Chorley who attends expectant mothers who are confined at home.

### **Home Nursing Service**

There are established in various parts of Chorley 4 female District Nurses, 2 State Enrolled Assistant Nurses and 2 male District Nurses. The duties of these nurses include nursing care of patients in their own homes and they arrange for the loan of nursing equipment in suitable cases.

### **Home Help Service**

Home Helps are employed in Chorley and help a variety of cases including confinements, sickness, old age and infirmity, and Tuberculosis cases. Night Helps are also employed where needed.

### **Ante-Natal Clinic**

There is a weekly session held at 2 and 4, St. Thomas's Square, Chorley, when a specialist, employed by the Preston and Chorley Management Committee, attends.

### **Child Welfare Centres**

Three Child Welfare Centres are open each week in the district, one at Eaves Lane, each Wednesday afternoon, one at Cunliffe Street open on Tuesdays and Fridays, and All Saints, Moor Road, being open Thursday afternoons. A Doctor and Health Visitor attend each clinic and advice is readily given in infant care and management and baby foods sold.

### **Poliomyelitis Vaccination**

Vaccination against poliomyelitis was available through doctors surgeries and the two school clinics in the Borough. Open sessions were held weekly in the clinics throughout the year.

### **School Medical Service**

Medical and hygiene inspections are carried out at the schools and clinic sessions are held at 2 and 4, St. Thomas's Square and 20, St. Thomas's Road, Chorley, for a variety of treatments including minor ailments, dental care, orthopaedic and ophthalmic conditions. The County Council make special provision for residential schooling for various categories of handicapped children such as the blind, partially sighted, deaf and dumb, epileptics, delicate and backward.

At the end of the year approval was given for the commencement of building operations for a new school clinic and child welfare centre in Chorley.



**Convalescent Care**

In suitable cases arrangements are made for the admission of patients to convalescent homes.

**Welfare Services**

Residential homes are provided to accommodate elderly and infirm persons who have no longer any one to adequately care for them. Handicapped persons are also assisted.

**Chiropody Service**

Chiropody sessions were held at the School Clinic, 2/4 St. Thomas's Square, during the year for persons of pensionable age, expectant mothers, and registered handicapped persons. In addition a domiciliary service is available for those unable to attend the clinic.

A similar service was also available through the Chorley Voluntary Old Peoples' Welfare Committee.

## PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

### Prevalence of Notifiable Infectious Diseases (except T.B.)

1961 and 1960.

#### 1961

Disease	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	Total Cases	Cases Admitted to Hospital
Measles ... ..	281	48	6	1	336	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	21	7	4	4	36	8
Diphtheria... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	3	1	—	—	4	—
Pneumonia ... ..	19	6	1	3	29	—
Meningococcal Infection ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—	—	1	1	—
Erysipelas ... ..	2	—	1	1	4	—
Puerperal Pyrexia... ..	1	1	—	—	2	2 *
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ... ..	—	—	1	—	1	—
Dysentery ... ..	16	—	1	—	17	—
Paratyphoid ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—

#### 1960

Measles ....	2	2	3	179	186	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	48	45	12	24	129	38
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough... ..	24	45	7	2	78	—
Pneumonia ... ..	1	7	1	8	17	—
Erysipelas ..... ..	2	—	—	2	4	—
Puerperal Pyrexia... ..	2	2	1	—	5	5 *
Dysentery ... ..	8	10	1	37	56	—
Food Poisoning ... ..	1	—	—	—	1	—
Meningococcal Infection ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	—	1	—	—	1	—
Acute Poliomyelltis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—

\*—These cases actually occurred in Hospital.

Measles showed a large increase in the number of notifications especially in the first quarter of the year, Scarlet Fever, Whooping Cough and Dysentery incidence being appreciably lower.

## Tuberculosis

### New cases and Mortality during 1961.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
<b>Years.</b>								
Under 5 years .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 — 14 years ...	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
15 — 24 years ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 — 44 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 — 64 years .....	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over.....	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Age unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Totals.....</b>	1	3	—	1	1	—	—	—
<b>1960 Totals:—</b>	5		—		—		—	
<b>1959 Totals:</b>	10		2		3		—	

One respiratory case was added to the register being a transfer from another authority.

No. of cases on the register at the end of the year were:—

Pulmonary	....	....	....	....	....	81
Non-pulmonary	....	....	....	....	....	21
Removal from Register	....	....	....	....	....	36

**Brucellosis**

The Laboratory continued to examine all raw milk for the presence of *Brucella* organisms which cause Undulant Fever in man. Pasteurisation renders the milk safe but it is possible for raw milk, i.e. Tuberculin tested, to contain the organisms. Laboratory examinations were made on 46 samples of milk, and 6 were found to contain these organisms.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### 1. WATER SUPPLY

The town is supplied with water from the Liverpool Corporation Water Works at Rivington (the Chorley supply coming from filter beds at ("The Nab")) with the exception of some of the properties on the Duxbury Estate, whose supply is drawn from the Manchester supply, as the pipe lines to that city traverse the area on their way from Thirlmere. The water is soft, being upland surface water.

The water supply continues to be chlorinated, and treated by the soda ash process to prevent plumbo solvent action.

Weekly bacteriological and periodical chemical analyses are carried out by the Liverpool Corporation who forward copies of their analyses to the Public Health Department. Since these copies were requested in 1941 the results have proved invariably satisfactory.

In addition, the Department took 5 samples for bacteriological examination and 3 samples for chemical analysis from the Public Supply during the year. All results, apart from 1 were satisfactory.

Practically all the houses within the Borough receive a mains water supply; the exceptions being the outlying farms and cottages. These number 12 dwelling-houses (including 6 farms).

In some cases a reasonably good water is rendered of doubtful quality by poor arrangements and conditions of pipes, or other extraneous cause.

There were 10,571 houses on a mains water supply in the Borough, at the end of the year. No houses are supplied by stand pipe.

The pressure of water in some parts of the town is not good and leads to consequent neglect of all those main cleansing functions for which water is used.

It is essential that a wholesome and sufficient supply of water is available to all householders, if a satisfactory standard of health is to be maintained.

The average daily consumption of water per head of population is about 34.8 gallons, compared with 34.6 gallons for the previous year. (This figure includes the town's use of water for industrial purposes, as well as domestic).

There was an extension of the water supply to existing houses in Gillibrand Walks and Geoffrey Street and to new houses in Cuerden Street, Cranbourne Street, Hartwood Park Estate, Nab Road and to St. Hilda's Secondary School.

## 2. PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS

There are two swimming baths in use in the Borough, the Corporation Swimming Baths and Hartwood Hall, an open-air pool, the latter being privately owned but open to the public in the summer months.

At both swimming baths the water used is from the Liverpool Corporation's mains supply, and it is treated by filtration and chlorination, the period of complete circulation or "change" of water being 4 hours at the Corporation baths and Hartwood Hall.

During the year 8 bacteriological and 6 chemical samples were taken. 2 bacteriological samples from the Corporation baths and 2 chemical samples from Hartwood Hall were unsatisfactory but by the end of the year everything was satisfactory, although a number of visits by your Public Health Inspectors had been made necessary.

## 3. SEWERAGE

The outlying farms and cottages in the Borough are parts not served by the water carriage system and houses in the Euxton Lane, Bolton Road, Wigan Lane and Carr Lane districts are drained to septic tanks, no sewers being available. The sewerage of the Preston Road district was carried out during the year. 147 new houses were connected to the sewerage system.

Many small septic tanks give rise to nuisances by reason of blocked filters and the difficulty of ensuring that the effluent has been properly treated. Consideration should be given to sewerage of these houses where practicable.

Sewage disposal is effected at the works at Common Bank and Cowling.

The principal sewage works, serving more than three quarters of the area of the Borough, is situated at Common Bank at the lowest part of the Town. Cowling subsidiary installation deals with sewage from the eastern and southern parts of the Borough.

Sewage from Chorley is received at Common Bank through four trunk sewers at the north east of the works, and that from Euxton and the Royal Ordnance Factory is conveyed through two separate sewers on the westerly side. The works comprise mechanically operated screens, detritus channels, sedimentation tanks, storm water tanks, percolating bacterial filters, humus and sludge digestion tanks, and sludge drying beds.

During the year further discussions and consultations have taken place on the second section of the East Valley Main Drainage Scheme and it is hoped that contractors will commence work during the next financial year.



The Consulting Engineers engaged by the Council for the preparation of a Scheme for the extension of Common Bank Sewage Works, presented a preliminary report, which was submitted to the Ministry and the Lancashire County Council.

#### **4. RIVERS AND STREAMS**

The Lancashire River Board has jurisdiction in regard to rivers and streams pollution in the Borough. The pollution of rivers and streams has become a national problem and stringent measures are required to combat this menace.

##### **Factories Act 1937 to 1959**

For the prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937, see the Chief Public Health Inspector's Report. Page 54.



## PART 2.

**CLEAN AIR.**

**FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES.**

**HOUSING.**

**MISCELLANEOUS DUTIES.**

**PUBLIC CLEANSING.**

**PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTION (GENERAL).**

By

**R. J. MORSE, M.A.P.H.I., A.I.P.H.E.**

Chief Public Health Inspector.

**BOROUGH OF CHORLEY.**

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my second Annual Report to you, covering the year 1961.

The staff of the Department remained unchanged throughout the year and this was a big factor in helping to achieve a good year's work.

Work on the Slum Clearance Programme and the elimination of individual unfit houses proceeded steadily, but the main emphasis this year was on Food Hygiene. Considerable success was achieved with the Food Hygiene Campaign which started in April with a meeting attended by representatives of most of the various food trades and other interested bodies at which the Council's policy was explained. An effort was made to inspect as many food premises as possible and much was achieved. As stated in the body of the report the need for this effort was supported by the regrettable fact that 64 informal notices regarding contraventions of the Food Hygiene Regulations had to be served by the end of the year. These notices were additional to verbal warnings given at the time of inspection of the many premises where there were only minor infringements of the Regulations. Difficulties were experienced with some food traders, but the degree of co-operation experienced is perhaps best judged by the fact that the Council had to authorise the institution of legal proceedings in only one case where a local firm had failed to comply with the Regulations.

The results of the use of persuasion in connection with, rather than strict enforcement of, the Clean Air Act were more satisfying this year. Three industrial boiler plants which were not capable of complying with the Act were replaced by the respective firms with satisfactory modern plant following informal action, and other similar changes are planned for next year. As important as it is to ensure that industry complies with the law, it should be borne in mind that it has been estimated that over the country as a whole nearly 80 per cent. of atmospheric pollution is caused by domestic fires, but because of its nature and local concentration industrial pollution makes more of an impact on the public. Residents near factories are inclined to expect quick solutions to problems other than those of their own fireplaces.

The long-awaited modernisation of the General Market Public Conveniences commenced in October, and it is hoped that this will give a lead to the improvement of the conveniences in other parts of the town, particularly with regard to the free hand-washing facilities to be provided in the new conveniences. You will remember that you decided to give consideration during the formulation of estimates for the year 1962/63 to the provision of free hand-washing facilities at the Eaves Lane and Pall Mall public conveniences, but, unfortunately, on grounds of economy, the sum allowed was deleted from the estimates when finally considered.

As the Council is committed to spending a considerable sum on the improvement of the Public Abattoir in 1962, it is pleasing to note that more use is being made of the services available there. The throughput of animals increased from 16,417 last year to 17,662 in 1961.

A further decrease in the percentage of cattle inspected found to be affected with tuberculosis was noted in the year, pointing to the success of the Tuberculosis Eradication Scheme. In 1954 32.2% of all cattle killed in Chorley were found to be affected with tuberculosis upon post-mortem examination. In 1961 the incidence was down to the remarkably low figure of 0.55%. Expressed more simply and approximately, in 1954 1 in every 3 cattle killed was affected with tuberculosis; in 1961 only 1 in every 180 was so affected. Our veterinary colleagues, to whom the Scheme owes its success, are to be congratulated on these figures.

The weekly collection of refuse was maintained generally, but the difficulty of finding workmen of the right type to carry out this work, plus the fact that this service needs a thorough re-organisation, holds the constant threat of a general break-down over our heads. The ever present attraction of less arduous and less unpleasant employment at higher wages than those paid in the Cleansing Department poses a problem which becomes more difficult to solve each year. The paper sack system of refuse collection which you decided to defer for consideration in 1962 I am convinced would solve most of the problems, but it would increase costs. However, given the time to spare I hope to investigate the whole question thoroughly in 1962 and may then be able to offer some other alternative.

I welcome this opportunity of expressing my thanks to you, Mr. Chairman, and to all Members of the Health Committee for your interest in the work of the Department and for your continued support, which I was gratified to find confirmed by the way in which you agreed to most of the recommendations which I made in my special report on the working of the Department.

My appreciation and thanks are due also to the members of the staff and my colleagues in other Departments for their ready assistance and co-operation.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

R. J. MORSE,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

## CLEAN AIR

The Clean Air Act, 1956 and the Regulations made thereunder give local authorities powers and duties for the prevention of air pollution, providing for the limitations of emissions of dark smoke; certain controls over the installation of new furnaces; requirements to minimise grit and dust emission; control over new chimney heights; smoke control areas; research and publicity; and the making of building byelaws.

Much work remains to be done before the aims of this legislation are accomplished, but steady progress is being made, although air pollution in Chorley emanates more from domestic premises than from industry.

There was more time to spare for these duties this year than last, and 59 smoke observations were made, 8 excessive emissions being recorded, and this entailed 22 visits to industrial premises. Such visits take a lot of time, and often the amount of time taken does not appear to be justified by the small results achieved, but if problems are to be solved they must be discussed with the managements, their engineers and staff, and advice given where necessary. While the Department is always ready to do this, the managements must realise that asking for guidance for ways to use some existing plant so as to comply with the Act, or pleading "the human element," is merely avoiding the issue when what is required is modern equipment. In many cases conversion to mechanical stokers for solid fuel, or oil-burners, would pay for themselves over a short period of years by fuel savings.

### Investigation of Air Pollution

The Department continues to participate in the Investigation of Air Pollution in co-operation with the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, and the Air Pollution Standard Deposit Gauge was in operation throughout the year, its contents being measured and analysed each month. The following figures give some idea of the solids deposited over the past seven years.

Total solids deposited (in tons per sq. mile) :—

1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
112	168	162	121	73	110	142.9

Average deposit per month:—

9.3	14.0	13.5	12.1	6.7	10.0	15.8
-----	------	------	------	-----	------	------

The nature and extent of pollution must be known for effective action to be taken to reduce it, and only by continuous recordings by scientific methods can the necessary knowledge be obtained. A large number of local authorities throughout the country participate in the scheme and the monthly figures are sent to the Warren Spring Laboratory of the Department of Scientific Research.



who act in an advisory and co-ordinating capacity. At the Laboratory the results of the investigations are collated and circulated monthly to participating local authorities, so making available an overall picture of pollution throughout the country as well as the means of making comparisons between authorities.

### **Pollution by Road Vehicles**

In a town with a traffic problem such as Chorley's the pollution of the air by road vehicles' exhaust gases gives much food for thought, but it is of interest to note that the Warren Spring Laboratory maintains a ten-ton diesel lorry instrumented and equipped to test devices for removing smoke from the exhaust gas. Investigation of a number of different methods at the Laboratory has demonstrated the essential difficulty of removing the smoke, once it is formed, and has emphasised that correct maintenance and operation of the engine provide the only practical means of preventing smoke. Work has now been started on methods of assessing the darkness of clouds of exhaust smoke as an aid to the setting and enforcement of reasonable standards.

### **Notifications of Proposals to Install New Furnaces**

Notifications were received of proposals to install four new furnaces, two of which were replacements for old installations which were not capable of complying with the Clean Air Act and were being replaced following informal action taken by the Department.

In addition, a centrally situated coal-fired boiler which had been the source of heavy pollution ceased to function when the firm concerned changed over to electricity.

## FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES

### 1. Milk Supply

Since 1956 Chorley and the surrounding districts have comprised a Specified Area, so that the only milk now retailed within the Borough is designated milk, that is Tuberculin Tested, Pasteurised or Sterilised.

The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960, came into force on 1st October, 1960, revoking the previous regulations. The principal changes affecting this authority are that dealers' licences now permit sales outside as well as inside the area of the licensing authority; a dealer's (pre-packed milk) licence now permits the sale of all three kinds of specially designated milk where the milk is obtained by the dealer in the container in which it is to be supplied to the consumer; the period for which a dealer's licence will be granted is now five years instead of one year; and certain changes covering the sampling and testing of milk.

The following licences were issued under these Regulations:—

Dealer's (pre-packed milk) licences for tuberculin tested, pasteurised and sterilised milk ....	118
Dealer (pasteuriser) licence ....	1
Dealer (steriliser) licence ....	1
146 visits were made to dairies and milk shops.	

### Bacteriological Examination of Milk

116 samples of milk were submitted for bacteriological examination, and the results are shown in the following table:—

Type of Milk	No. of Samples	Meth. Blue Test		Phosphatase Test		Turbidity Test	
		Sat.	Unsat.	Sat.	Unsat.	Sat.	Unsat.
Tuberculin Tested (Farm bottled) Milk .....	46	38	8	—	—	—	—
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) Milk .....	21	20	1	21	—	—	—
Pasteurised Milk .....	28	28	—	28	—	—	—
Sterilised Milk .....	21	—	—	—	—	21	—

### **Biological Examination of Milk**

Samples submitted	....	....	....	....	....	....	46
Samples showing the presence of <i>B. tuberculosis</i>	....	....	—				
Samples showing the probable presence of <i>Brucella abortus</i>							6

### **Chemical Analysis**

75 samples of milk were obtained for chemical analysis under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, and submitted to the Public Analyst.

(See Section 6 — “Food and Drugs Act, 1955” for details).

## **2. Ice Cream**

There are 166 premises registered for the sale of ice-cream under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. One of the premises is also registered for the manufacture of ice-cream, although within the meaning of the Food Standards (Ice-Cream) Regulations, 1959, the product is, in fact, a milk-ice, the prescribed standard of composition for which being much lower than that for ice-cream.

## **3. Meat Inspection and the Public Abattoir**

All slaughtering of animals for use as human food is carried on at the Corporation's Public Abattoir, there being no private slaughter-houses in the Borough.

Your Public Health Inspectors carry out all meat inspection duties, which necessitate a certain amount of over-time working, particularly on Bank Holidays, and 100 per cent. inspection of carcasses and offals was maintained throughout the year despite a large overall increase in the number of animals killed over the previous year.. Complete and thorough inspection is, of course, vitally necessary whatever difficulties there may be, as meat inspection is a duty which must never be neglected.

### **The Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1958**

The Public Abattoir equipment and conditions generally comply with the provisions of the Regulations, but it will be necessary to provide feeding troughs in the pig lairage and two stunning pens for use in connection with the slaughter of cattle.



### The Slaughterhouse (Hygiene) Regulations, 1958

In order that the Public Abattoir may be made to comply with these Regulations, the following works and equipment will be necessary:—

Extra wash-hand basins; sterilizing units for the sterilization of cloths, knives and other equipment; new condemned meat building; tiling of wall surfaces and repairs to existing tiled surfaces; improvement of artificial lighting; suitable area made available in the hanging hall for holding carcasses requiring further examination; provision of rust proofed offal hooks throughout; replacement of wooden items of equipment by metal ones.

### Slaughter of Animals Act, 1955

Licences issued to slaughtermen during the year .... 13

### Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	3079	42	10845	3696
Number inspected	3079	42	10845	3696
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci — Whole carcasses condemned	6	2	3	8
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	644	—	362	470
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cystercercosis	21.1%	4.8%	3.0%	12.9%
Tuberculosis only — Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	17	—	—	31
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	0.55%	—	—	0.8%
Cysticercosis — Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	17	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	17	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—

The success achieved by the Tuberculosis Eradication Scheme can readily be seen from the annual figures of the percentage of cattle found to be affected with Tuberculosis upon post-mortem examination. In 1954 the figure was 32.2%. Last year, 1960, the figure was down to 2.2%, and this year it was down to the remarkable low figure of 0.55%. Expressed more simply and approximately, in 1954 1 in every 3 cattle killed was affected with Tuberculosis; in 1961 only 1 in every 180 was so affected.

### Disposal of Condemned Meat and Offal

All condemned meat and offal is stained green prior to being sold for processing.

9769 lbs. of meat and offal were disposed of in this way from the Abattoir, plus 167 lbs. of condemned imported and other meat from retail shops.

#### 4. Inspection of Other Foods

	Type of Food	Qty. Condemned (lbs.)
Spam	(Canned) ....	4
Luncheon Meat	(Canned) ....	90
Ham	(Canned) ....	769
Tongue	(Canned) ....	90
Corned Beef	(Canned) ....	131
Chicken	....	3
Scampi	....	6
Prunes	....	7
Cucumbers	....	36
Mallow Creams	....	66 (not lbs.)
Coconut Mallows	....	135 (not lbs.)
Tins, packets of other foods	....	3474 (not lbs.)

#### 5. Food Premises

##### Number and Types of Food Premises

General grocers and provision dealers	....	163
Greengrocers and fruiterers (including those selling wet fish, game, etc.)	....	24
Fishmongers (including those selling poultry, game, etc.)	....	4
Meat Shops (butchers, purveyors of cooked and preserved meats, tripe, etc)	....	43
Bakers and/or confectioners	....	40
Fried fish shops	....	25
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, ice-cream, etc.	....	34
Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, restaurants, cafes, snack bars and similar catering establishments	....	126
Others	....	13

### Number of Food Premises and Hawkers Registered

#### Section 16, Food and Drugs Act, 1955:—

Ice-cream premises	....	...	....	....	....	....	166
Potted and preserved food premises	....	....	....	....	....	....	35

#### Section 14, Lancashire County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951:—

Hawkers' premises	....	....	....	....	....	....	39
Hawkers	....	....	....	....	....	....	31

### Inspection of Food Premises

#### Food Hygiene Regulations, "Clean Food" Byelaws, etc.

Considerable success was achieved with a Food Hygiene Campaign which started in April with a meeting attended by representatives of most of the various food trades and other interested bodies at which the Council's policy was explained and a discussion took place regarding the various aspects of the Regulations.

This was subsequently followed by an article in the "Chorley Guardian" on Food Hygiene, written by the C.P.H.I., to help keep the interest of the public in the subject.

An effort was then made to inspect as many food premises as possible during the summer months, starting with the more important food preparing premises, and much was achieved. The need for this effort was supported by the regrettable fact that 64 informal notices regarding contraventions of the Food Hygiene Regulations had to be served during the year. These notices were additional to verbal warnings given at the time of inspection of the many premises where there were only minor infringements of the Regulations.

### Prosecutions

(1) The failure of Joseph Hall Ltd., Eaves Lane, Chorley, a local firm of bakers and confectioners, to comply with an informal Food Hygiene notice resulted in their being charged in Chorley Magistrates' Court with eight offences under the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960. Three summonses were dismissed, but the firm was fined a total of £75 and ordered to pay seven guineas costs with regard to the five remaining summonses, relating to failure to keep clean equipment and working surfaces with which food was liable to come into contact; not taking reasonable steps to protect food from the risk of contamination; having

water closets not so situated that no offensive odours therefrom could penerate into a foodroom; failing to keep a wash-hand basin clean; and failing to keep clean and in good repair the general structure of the shop, bakehouse, soft drinks bar and kitchen.

(2) Another food shop inspection resulted in the Manager of the Meadow Dairy Company Ltd., Market Place, Chorley, being prosecuted, and in the Magistrates' Court he was fined a total of £35 for having in his possession for the purpose of sale sausages and cooked meats which were unfit for human consumption, and was ordered to pay five guineas costs.

## **6. Food and Drugs Act, 1955.**

### **Sampling and Administration.**

The Corporation is the Food and Drugs Authority for the Borough.

During the year 112 samples were taken, of which 6, or 5.4 %, were unsatisfactory in some particular.

Details of these unsatisfactory samples are as follows:—

### **Milk**

(1) An informal sample of milk from a producer outside the Borough taken on delivery to the local dairy proved to be deficient of 3.3 % fat, the freezing point indicating 3.1% extraneous water.

Subsequently, 10 formal samples were taken from 10 churns of milk in course of delivery from the same farmer. The freezing point of these samples showed that 3 of them contained extraneous water, ranging from 2.5% to 8.1 %.

The farmer was later charged with three offences of having in his possession for the purpose of sale for human consumption milk to which water had been added and was fined a total of £45 and ordered to pay £5 5s. costs.

(2) An informal sample of Channel Islands milk proved to contain only 3.8% fat, a 5% deficiency. The vendor was cautioned and a repeat sample taken proved to be satisfactory.

(3) A bottle of Tuberculin Tested (Farm Bottled) milk was deficient of 3.3% fat. The vendor was cautioned and a repeat sample taken proved to be satisfactory.



### Samples Found to be Genuine

Article	No. of Samples
Bread ....	2
Butter ....	1
Coffee ....	1
Cornflower ....	1
Cream ....	1
Frankfurters ....	1
Ice Cream ....	4
Ice Lollies ....	1
Jelly (Table) ....	1
Macaroni ....	1
Margarine ....	1
Meat Loaf (Luncheon) ....	1
Meat Pie ....	1
Milk ....	67
Milk Ice ....	3
Milk (Condensed) ....	1
Orange Drink ....	1
Pork Brawn ....	1
Peas - processed (Canned) ....	1
Raspberry Fruit Drink ....	1
Rum Truffles ....	1
Sausages (Hot Dog) ....	1
Spirits ....	7
Sponge Mixture ....	1
Steak (Stewed) ....	2
Sultanas ....	1
Tomatoes (Canned) ....	1
Total ....	106

### Food Complaints

A number of complaints were made by the public to the Department during the year concerning various foodstuffs. In three cases, as detailed below, it was considered necessary to report the facts to the Council.

Article	Nature of Complaint	Action
Bread	Contained a large moth	Considered by Council— Bakery firm warned.
Jam and Cream Puffs	Internal surfaces covered with mould growth	Considered by Council— Confectionery firm warned.
Bottle of milk	Dirt on internal surface of bottle	Considered by Council— Dairy firm warned.

## HOUSING

### 1. General

The main type of house in the Borough is a terraced type with either 4 or 5 habitable rooms. The common defects are defective roofs, walls, gutters, spouts, windows and lack of damp-proof courses. These defects are very liable to produce excessive dampness.

The total number of houses erected and otherwise acquired by the Council up to the end of 1961 was 1,963.

In spite of the efforts made by informal and statutory action the number of sub-standard houses remains high.

During the year 26 houses were represented as unfit for human habitation under the Housing Act.

Hollinshead Street No. 1, Hollinshead Street No. 2, Brown's Square, Friday Street Clearance Orders were all duly confirmed by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government during April and May.

An Official Inquiry into the Tootell Street Compulsory Purchase Order was held on the 23rd February and the Order was duly confirmed without modification by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in August.

### 2. Clearance Areas and Individual Unfit Houses Demolished

#### Clearance Areas

		Houses Demolished	Persons Displaced
Houses Unfit for Human Habitation	....	9	159
Houses on land acquired under Sec. 43(2)	....	—	—

		Houses Demolished	Persons Displaced
<b>Not in Clearance Areas</b>			
As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17, Housing Act 1957	....	45	11
Local Authority owned houses certified unfit	....	29	4



**3. Unfit Houses Closed**

	Houses Closed	Persons Displaced
Under Section 16 Housing Act 1957 ....	10	30
Parts of buildings closed under Section 18 Housing Act 1957 ....	1	3

**4. No. of new houses erected during the year**

	1961
(1) By the Local Authority ....	76
(2) By other bodies or persons ....	71

**5. Particulars of Housing Schemes**

- (i) In hand at end of the year.  
 Burgh Lane Estate comprising 120 Houses and Flats.  
 Bolton Street Re-development comprising 16 Bungalows and 40 Flats.
- (ii) Contemplated.  
 Jackson Street comprising 6 Bungalows.  
 Tootell Street and Yates Street comprising 24 Flats.  
 Eaves Lane and Crosse Hall comprising 8 Bungalows.

**6. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year**

(1) (a) Total No. of dwelling-houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ....	1005
(b) No. of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose ....	3043
(c) No. of dwelling-houses in (a) above found to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit ....	458
(2) Total No. of dwelling-houses existing at end of year which were unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit ....	307

**7. Remedy of Defects during the Year without service of Formal Notice**

No. of dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	447
--	-----

## 8. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year

### A. Proceedings under Section 9, and 16 of Housing Act, 1957.

(1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ....	8
(2) No. of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice	
(a) by Owners ....	1
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners ....	1

### B. Proceedings under Public Health Act.

(1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ....	138
(2) No. of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied	
(a) by Owners ....	94
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners ....	1

### C. Proceedings under sections 16, 17 and 35 of the Housing Act 1957.

(1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ....	10
(2) No. of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ....	9
(3) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which undertakings have been received and accepted ....	16

### D. Proceedings under section 18 of the Housing Act, 1957.

(1) No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ....	1
(2) No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ....	—

**9. Housing Act, 1949 and Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958 — Improvement Grants etc.:—**

Action During Year:—	Private Bodies or Individuals		Local Authority	
	No. of Schemes	No. of Dwelling Houses or other Buildings affected	No. of Schemes	No. of Dwelling Houses or other Buildings affected
(a) Submitted by private individuals to Local Authority ....	17	17	—	—
(b) Approved by Local Authority ....	20	20		
(c) Submitted by Local Authority to Ministry ....	—	—	—	—
(d) Finally approved by Ministry ....	—	—	—	—
(e) Work completed ....	17	17	—	—
(f) Additional separate dwellings included in (a) above ....	—	—	—	—

**10. House Purchase and Housing Act 1959 — Standard Grants :—**

(a) Applications submitted to Local Authority ....	43
(b) Applications approved by Local Authority ....	40
(c) Work completed ....	23

**11. Rent Act 1957**

No. of applications for certificates of disrepair ....	1
Certificates of disrepair issued ....	1
Certificates of disrepair cancelled ....	1

## **MISCELLANEOUS DUTIES**

### **1. Disease of Animals Act, 1950**

The Department is responsible for the administration of the Act and the various Orders made thereunder, within the Borough. Any action taken under the various duties imposed is outlined below.

#### **Swine Fever**

114 Licences were issued and 407 Licences from outside sources checked.

#### **Fowl Pest**

1 outbreak occurred in the Borough, 8 Special Orders and 5 Movement Licences, 3 Form A Licences, 1 Form B Licence, 1 Form C Licence were received and checked.

#### **Foot and Mouth Disease**

58 Movement Licences issued, 1 Licence checked from an outside source, 88 Special Orders received and checked.

#### **Importation of Animals Act**

No Licences issued, 4 from outside sources checked.

#### **Transit of Animals Orders**

These orders deal with the conveyance of animals to prevent unnecessary suffering. Several minor contraventions were dealt with and rectified by informal action.

#### **Tuberculosis Area Eradication Order 1950**

1 Notice prohibiting movement of bovine animals was received.

#### **Waste Foods Order 1957**

This Order prohibits the feeding of unboiled waste foods to certain animals or to poultry and lays down other prohibitions and requirements in order to prevent the spread of foot and mouth and other diseases. Any person having 5 or more weaned pigs, or more than 50 head of poultry, who collects or receives waste foods for them must boil waste foods in plant for which he holds a licence from the local authority.

## **2. Shops Act, 1950**

The enforcement of the provisions of the Act relating to closing hours, Sunday trading, and the employment of young persons, as well as those relating to health, is the responsibility of the Department.

Few special visits were made to shops for the purpose of enforcing hours of closing and Sunday trading restrictions due to pressure of other work, but one complaint was received that a small food shop was making illegal sales on a Sunday and the owner of the shop was interviewed and cautioned.

During the course of Food Hygiene inspections of food shops routine Shops Act inspections were carried out, totalling 105 in the year.

## **3. Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951**

The purpose of this Act is to secure the proper cleanliness of filling materials used in manufacturing bedding, toys, baby carriages and other articles of upholstery.

There are three registered premises where filling materials of the type listed are used in manufacturing articles of upholstery, and 3 inspections were made during the year.

## **4. Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Act, 1952**

This Act prohibits the sale or letting of unguarded electric fires, gas fires or oil heaters.

Most manufacturers now fit guards of an approved type to their appliances, so it is unusual to find new articles not properly equipped. Vigilance is still necessary, however, particularly in the case of second-hand dealers, and householders are frequently advised to fit guards to their fires when unguarded ones are noticed during the course of inspections for other purposes.

## **5. Pet Animals Act, 1951**

This Act provides that no person shall keep a pet shop without a licence, so as to ensure that animals in such shops are kept under suitable conditions and that mammals will not be sold at too early an age. 4 licences have now been issued.



## PUBLIC CLEANSING

### Refuse Collection

House and trade refuse is collected by a fleet of six Karrier Bantam, side-loading, end-tipping vehicles. Four old petrol-engine vehicles were replaced this year by four new vehicles of the same type but with diesel engines. The two remaining petrol-engine vehicles will be similarly replaced in due course.

In all 26 men (including drivers) are employed in collecting refuse as follows:—

- 1 Foreman refuse collector.
- 4 teams of 4 collectors and 1 driver on 4 vehicles.
- 1 team of 2 collectors and 1 driver on 1 vehicle.
- 1 team of 1 collector and 1 driver/loader on 1 vehicle.

A weekly collection service is maintained generally, but a number of breaks occurred in this routine during the year, due to national holidays and sickness, and changes in staff. Many of the shops and other trade premises are given a twice-weekly collection service, and one collection vehicle is largely engaged on this work.

In common with most local authorities, considerable difficulty is experienced in finding suitable men for these duties. A number of the refuse collectors have given the Corporation many years of excellent service, but they will not be easy to replace. Too often a replacement is started who only works for a week at most, sometimes only a few hours, when he discovers that it is not the job for him, probably because he did not expect to find it such hard work.

The development of new housing estates is also bringing its attendant difficulties, as the overall length of carry is tending to increase. In the older properties the dustbins are usually sited very near to the road or back lane, but this is not so in the case of most new houses. In consequence the districts allocated to the various teams are in need of re-organisation, but a complete survey of the service will be necessary to make this possible.

Towards the end of the year the Council gave consideration to a report on the paper sack system of refuse collection with a view to its possible implementation, but it was decided that the matter should be further considered the following year.

### Storage of Refuse

The system whereby the owner or occupier of any dwelling-house and certain business premises can be required to provide a suitable dustbin, under the Chorley Corporation Act, 1926, continues to work well and ensures that all premises in the town have a suitable bin of standard size.

During the year 79 preliminary notices were served on the persons responsible to provide bins and in only 13 cases was it necessary to serve a statutory notice to secure the provision of a suitable dustbin.

Dustbins of an excellent quality are purchased for sale to the public at 47/6 each, 354 being sold in the year. With reasonable use these bins appear to have a life on average, of over 10 years.

Considerable difficulty was experienced throughout the year in obtaining supplies of the Chorley pattern dustbins from the regular supplier and resulted in the order being given to another firm.

### **Refuse Disposal and Salvage**

Responsibility for refuse disposal, salvage, and transport was taken over towards the end of the year from the Borough Engineer's Department following consideration by the Health Committee of a recommendation made by the Chief P.H.I. in a special report on the working of the Department referred to elsewhere. The new arrangement has already proved to be a satisfactory one, and should enable the Cleansing Department to operate more smoothly in the future.

All refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping at Lawnwood, where the salvage depot is also situated. Six men are engaged on this work as follows:—

- 1 Tip Foreman.
- 1 Tractor driver.
- 2 Tip men.
- 2 Paper salvage balers.

There was an increased income from the sale of waste paper during the year, this being the only commodity salvaged by the Department. The sale of 371 tons of this material secured a gross income of £2,908 (£2,802—1960), out of which £531 was distributed in the form of an incentive bonus amongst the collection and disposal staff.

### **Protective Clothing and Welfare**

All employees are issued with overalls and in April a laundering service for them was commenced, so that the men could hand in a dirty pair of overalls at the end of each week and collect a clean pair. Despite the obvious advantages of this system to the men the majority have continued to have their own overalls washed at home. Few make regular use of the laundering service.

In addition to overalls, gloves and goggles are issued to refuse collectors if requested, and rubber boots and donkey jackets are issued to men employed on the tip.

There is a need for some type of waterproof clothing to be issued for use in inclement weather, but some experimenting with various types will be necessary before any recommendation can be made.

All men engaged on refuse collection are allowed free use of the slipper bath facilities at the Public Baths.

In view of the unsatisfactory condition of the men's rest room in the old building in the Town's Yard it was decided to make more satisfactory provision for the men in the Ambulance or Fire Station buildings when these buildings are vacated by the Lancashire County Council in the near future.

### **Street Cleansing**

The Borough Engineer is responsible for the cleansing of streets and snow clearance.

### **Public Conveniences**

There are 17 public conveniences under the control of the Department, cleaned and maintained by a staff of one male (full-time) and one female (part-time). Other conveniences provided at Astley Hall and the Recreation Grounds are under the supervision of the Parks Department.

The insufficiency of public conveniences throughout the Borough is noticeable, but certain improvements to existing conveniences were completed, and towards the end of the year the re-building of the Market Public Conveniences was commenced. As this meant closing the old Market Conveniences the situation is temporarily aggravated in the centre of the town.

The Council decided that consideration should be given during the formulation of estimates for the following year to the provision of free hand-washing facilities at the Eaves Lane and Pall Mall public conveniences. Unfortunately, on grounds of economy, the sum allowed was deleted from the estimates when finally considered.

Regretfully, it must be recorded that damage to locks, fittings and buildings was again prevalent throughout the year.

## PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTION (GENERAL)

### 1. Summary of Public Health Inspectors' Visits and Inspections:

Building Plans	....	....	....	....	14
Clean Air (Including Observations)	....	....	....	....	81
Diseases of Animals	....	....	....	....	25
Drainage (Inspections and Tests)	....	....	....	....	206
Entertainment Places	....	....	....	....	3
Factories	....	....	....	....	190
Food Premises	....	....	....	....	725

#### Food Inspection:—

Routine and Condemnations	....	....	....	79
Sampling — Food and Drugs	....	....	....	214
Bacteriological	....	....	....	124
Public Abattoir (Days)	....	....	....	185

#### Housing:

Housing Acts — Repairs	....	....	....	35
Closing/Demln.	....	....	....	147
Slum Clearance	....	....	....	145
Overcrowding	....	....	....	10
Imprt. Grants	....	....	....	60
Public Health — Repairs	....	....	....	678
Re-inspection	....	....	....	2038
Vermin	....	....	....	150
Infectious Disease	....	....	....	184
Miscellaneous	....	....	....	474
Nuisances	....	....	....	241
Offensive Trades	....	....	....	20
Pet Animals Act	....	....	....	6
Public Cleansing	....	....	....	194
Public Conveniences	....	....	....	283
Rag Flock Act	....	....	....	3
Rodent Control	....	....	....	14
Schools	....	....	....	10
Shops Act	....	....	....	105
Swimming Baths	....	....	....	12
Tents, Caravans, etc.	....	....	....	28
Water Supplies	....	....	....	62
Workplaces	....	....	....	2

### 2. Offensive Trades

There are 3 premises registered for the purpose of carrying on trade classified as “offensive” namely Tripe dressing 2, and Gut scraping 1.

These premises are all inspected to see that they conform to the bye-laws.

No. of visits made	....	....	....	....	20
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### 3. Moveable Dwellings

Under the Chorley Corporation Act, 1926 (section 92-3) no tent, caravan, or similar structure is permitted to remain within the Borough, nor is it permitted for any land to be used to provide accommodation for such, without the consent of the Council.

During the year 28 visits were made to such dwellings to ensure that they were moved from unsuitable sites as soon as possible.

### 4. Rodent Control

Apart from the enormous amount of damage caused by rodents to food-stuffs, other materials, and to the fabric of buildings, they are potential food poisoning organism carriers. Most rat infestations originate from rats gaining access to buildings by way of defective drains from the public sewers, and to control the rat population in the sewers a bi-annual treatment by laying poison bait in the manholes is carried out.

- (a) No. of properties in district  
 (b) No. of properties inspected  
 (c) No. of properties inspected which were found to be infested by:—  
     Rats — major  
             minor  
     Mice — major  
             minor  
 (d) No. of infested properties treated  
 (e) No. of "Block" control schemes carried out

TYPE OF PROPERTY		
Non-agricultural		Agricul- tural
Dwelling- houses	All others	
10060	2006	44
206	307	44
—	—	—
153	58	4
—	—	—
53	31	—
206	89	4
—	—	—

- (f) Any other action — Sewer treatment carried out during the year.

### 5. Disinfestation

#### Vermin

Infestations of bed bugs or fleas are now a rare occurrence and it was found necessary to disinfest only 2 houses during the year.



Modern insecticides have made this work much easier and they are extremely effective, repeat disinfestations being almost unknown.

When necessary bedding and other suitable material is treated by steam in the Department's own steam disinfector.

### Other Pests

The advice of the Department is frequently sought concerning the eradication of many types of insect pests, and in some cases treatment is carried out.

### 6. Schools

1.	Chorley	All Saints' C.E.
2.	„	Duke Street County (Junior)
2.	„	Duke Street County (Infants')
3.	„	Highfield County (Junior)
3.	„	Highfield County (Infants')
4.	„	Hollinshead Street Congregational (Junior & Infants')
5.	„	Parochial (Mixed)
5.	„	Parochial (Infants')
6.	„	Sacred Heart R.C. (Mixed)
6.	„	Sacred Heart R.C. (Infants')
7.	„	St. George's C.E. (Junior & Infants)
8.	„	St. James' C.E. (Mixed)
8.	„	St. James' C.E. (Infants')
9.	„	St. Joseph's R.C.
10.	„	St. Mark's C.E.
11.	„	St. Mary's R.C. (Mixed)
11.	„	St. Mary's R.C. (Infants')
12.	„	St. Peter's C.E. (Mixed)
12.	„	St. Peter's C.E. (Infants')
13.	„	Weld Bank R.C. (Mixed)
14.	„	Weld Bank R.C. (Infants')
80.	„	Duke St. Practical Instruction Centre
81.	„	Highfield Practical Instruction Centre
101.	„	Southlands County Secondary
104.	„	St. Augustine's R.C. Secondary (Boys')
105.	„	St. Alban's C.E. Secondary
130.	„	Grammar, Southport Road
150.	„	Highfield Nursery School
151.	„	Duke Street Nursery School
200.	„	Astley Park School

Progress is still being made with improvements to the older schools and heating, lighting and other facilities are generally satisfactory.

Urinal accommodation in some schools is not satisfactory, however, and in a number of schools hand-washing facilities are still below the prescribed standards.

## 7. Water Supply

In a number of cases where the water supply has proved to be inadequate due to low pressure, and with several houses sharing a common service pipe, the owners have been requested to provide a sufficient supply.

This has mostly been accomplished by running a new service pipe or pipes from the street main. The provision of a new piped supply from the street main is a costly item, and the Water Undertaking have now agreed to bring the rising main to the stop taps on the pavements at their expense. This should encourage more owners to re-lay the pipes for which they are responsible, so providing an adequate supply at a reduced cost.

## 8. Sanitary Accommodation

The various types of closets in the Borough are as follows:—

Privy middens	....	....	....	....	17
Closets attached to above middens	....			....	19
Pail closets	....	....	....	....	40
Waste water closets	....	....	....	....	453
Water closets	....	....	....	....	10977

The privy middens and pail closets are located amongst the farm and outlying properties near the Borough boundary, and none exist where sewers are available. They are mostly emptied by the owners, but the Corporation undertakes the emptying of some privy middens and pail closets.

The number of waste water closets was further reduced during the year, 33 having been converted to water closets.

The grant of £7 10s. 0d. made by the Council towards the cost of each conversion has not proved as successful as was hoped in encouraging owners to carry out conversions voluntarily. Almost all conversions are secured by the service of a notice on the owner when waste water closets are found to be in some way defective. In November, after considering a report on the subject, the Council decided to increase the grant to half the total cost of each conversion in an endeavour to accelerate the rate of conversion.

**Drain Clearing**

A free service is provided for the clearing of stoppages in drains where simple "rodding" or "plunging" is effective, one man being employed part-time on this work.

When it is found necessary to excavate and open the drain then a charge is made, the work being carried out by the Borough Engineer's Department.

**9. Infectious Diseases and Food Poisoning**

Whenever necessary routine enquiries were made concerning all notified cases of infectious diseases and food poisoning, necessitating 184 visits.

Disinfection of 36 houses was carried out following cases of infectious diseases, and numerous books and other articles were disinfected.

**10. Noise Abatement**

The Noise Abatement Act, 1960 made new provisions in respect of the control of noise and vibration with a view to their abatement, and provides that noise or vibration which is a nuisance shall be a statutory nuisance for the purposes of Part III of the Public Health Act, 1936. Specific restrictions are placed on the operation of loud-speakers on highways and other places open to the public.

As yet little extra work has been occasioned by this legislation, only 8 visits being made under this heading during the year.

## 11. Factories Act, 1937 to 1958

## 1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	No. on Register	Number of			
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities. ... ..	51	55	—	—	
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority. ... ..	151	135	2	—	
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out workers premises) ... ..	—	—	—	—	
TOTAL ... ..	202	190	2	—	

## 2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars  (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found  (2)	Remedied  (3)	Referred		
			to H.M. Inspector (4)	by H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective...	1	3	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relat- ing to outworkers) .....	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ... ..	1	3	—	1	—

## NEW LEGISLATION

### **The Factories Act, 1961**

This Act, which comes into force on 1st April, 1962, consolidates the Factories Acts, 1937 to 1959, and certain other enactments relating to the safety, health and welfare of employed persons.

### **The Rivers (Prevention of Pollution) Act, 1961**

This Act makes further provision for controlling the discharge of trade and sewage effluent into rivers, etc.

### **The Public Health Act, 1961**

This Act has three main objects; the replacement of building byelaws by building regulations; the enactment of various provisions which have frequently been included in local Acts; and the amendment of the law relating to the discharge of trade effluents into public sewers.

The provisions which have precedents in local Acts relate, in particular, to sewers, drains and sanitary conveniences; buildings and structures; prevention and notification of disease; and streets and public places.

Other provisions of interest relate to accumulations of rubbish, filthy or verminous premises or articles; power to reduce numbers of pigeons and other birds in built-up areas; byelaws as to pleasure fairs and roller skating rinks; byelaws as to hairdressers and barbers; water supply to houses; and the meaning of "refreshment-house" in s. 89 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

### **The Housing Act, 1961**

This Act is largely based on the White Paper "Housing in England and Wales," published in February, 1961.

Provisions as to financial assistance for housing accommodation provided by local authorities, development corporations and housing associations relate, in particular, to exchequer subsidies for new housing accommodation; advances to housing associations providing housing for letting; grants for hostels; and payments for town development.

Amendments of the Housing Act, 1957, concern, in particular, houses in multiple accommodation and the reconditioning of condemned houses.



Miscellaneous provisions relate to rent increases for improvements; standard grants and improvement grants; repairing obligations in short leases of dwelling-houses; and town development.

### **The Authorised Officers (Meat Inspection) Regulations, 1961**

These regulations revoke and re-enact with amendments the Authorised Officers (Meat Inspection) Regulations, 1960. The effect of the amendments is to add two further qualifications, the holders of which become eligible for appointment by local authorities as authorised officers with full powers in relation to the seizure and examination of meat.

### **The Labelling of Food (Amendment) Regulations, 1961**

These regulations, on and after 20th March, 1962, exempt certain wines from the requirement to declare on the label the fruit basis and alcohol content.

### **The Lead in Food Regulations, 1961**

These regulations lay down statutory limits for the lead content of food and beverage imported, sold or intended for sale for human consumption.



